WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. A method for measuring a plasticity of a material such as a ceramic raw material or mass, the method comprising the steps of:
- (a) deforming a sample body by impacting said sample body with a weight;
- (b) measuring a movement of said weight over time during a deformation of said sample body;
- (c) generating a path signal based on said movement of said weight, wherein said path signal is proportional to said deformation of said sample body;
- (d) measuring a reaction force of said sample body over time during said deformation of said sample body;
- (e) generating a force signal, wherein said force signal is proportional to said reaction force; and
- (f) processing and evaluating said path signal and said force signal with a computer.

2. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of dropping said weight onto said sample body from a pre-determined height. 3. The method according to claim 2, wherein said weight impacts said sample body in a free fall. The method according to claim 1, wherein said weight impacts said sample body at a regulated speed. A device for measuring a plasticity of a material such as a ceramic raw material or mass by impacting and deforming a sample body with a weight and measuring a movement of the weight and a reaction force of the sample body over time during a deformation of the sample body, the device comprising: (a) a force measurement device for measuring the reaction force of the sample body during the deformation; (b) a sample table disposed on said force measurement device: a guide disposed above said sample table wherein - 17 -

said guide is for guiding the weight which impacts the sample body; and

(d) a path sensor for detecting a movement of the weight;

wherein a path signal which is proportional to the deformation of the sample body is generated based on the movement of the weight, a force signal which is proportional to the reaction force is generated and said path signal and said force signal are measured and evaluated.

- 6. The device according to claim 5, further comprising a computer coupled to said force measurement device and said path sensor.
- 7. The device according to claim 5, wherein said force measurement device comprises a load cell.
- 8. The device according to claim 7, wherein said load cell is inherently resilient.
 - 9. The device according to claim 7, further

comprising a separate spring system comprising a transducer, wherein said load cell is mounted on said separate spring system.

- 10. The device according to claim 5, wherein said guide comprises a linear guide.
- 11. The device according to claim 5, wherein said guide comprises a lever, wherein the weight is disposed on said lever and said lever is rotatable about an axis of rotation.
- 12. The device according to claim 11, wherein a height of said axis of rotation is adjustable.
- 13. The device according to claim 5, wherein said guide comprises a lever having a parallelogram guide.
- 14. The device according to claim 5, wherein said guide comprises a scissors system.